



STATE OF TENNESSEE  
**EXECUTIVE ORDER**  
BY THE GOVERNOR

No. 5

**AN ORDER ESTABLISHING THE GOVERNOR'S TASK FORCE ON  
TEACHER PAY**

**WHEREAS**, recognizing the "inherent value of education," Article XI, Section 12 of the Tennessee State Constitution provides for the maintenance and support of a system of free public schools; and

**WHEREAS**, the Tennessee Supreme Court has ruled that Article XI, Section 12 requires that this state's public school system afford "substantially equal educational opportunities to all students;" and

**WHEREAS**, the Tennessee Supreme Court has recently found that the teacher pay equity plan currently employed by the state's public school system does not comply with the state's constitutional obligations; and

**WHEREAS**, this Administration recognizes and fully appreciates the unparalleled importance of a strong public education system and is firmly committed to providing such a system for the benefit of both our young people and our general population; and

**WHEREAS**, this Administration desires to work with the General Assembly, the Basic Education Program Review Committee and all other interested stakeholders to develop a suitable teacher pay plan for Tennessee's public school system that complies with the constitutional duty to provide "substantially equal educational opportunities to all students."

**NOW THEREFORE**, I, Phil Bredesen, Governor of the State of Tennessee, by virtue of the power and authority vested in me by the Tennessee Constitution and law, do hereby order and direct that:

1. The Governor's Task Force on Teacher Pay is hereby established. The Task Force is charged with the responsibility of recommending to the Governor a comprehensive approach to the development of an appropriate teacher pay plan for Tennessee's public schools, including but not limited to recommendations focused on the teacher salary component of the Basic Education Program formula. In making its recommendations, the Task Force shall consider the applicable holdings of the Tennessee Supreme Court, the budgetary requirements of the state, and any other factors that the Task Force deems to be relevant.
2. The Task Force shall present its findings and comprehensive recommendations to the Governor on or before November 3, 2003.

3. The Task Force shall have sixteen (16) members, consisting of the following individuals:
  - a. The Governor or his designate;
  - b. The Chairman of the Senate Education Committee or his designate;
  - c. The Chairman of the House Education Committee or his designate;
  - d. The Attorney General or his designate;
  - e. The Comptroller of the Treasury or his designate;
  - f. The Commissioner of Finance and Administration or his designate;
  - g. The Commissioner of the Department of Education or her designate;
  - h. The Director of the Office of Legislative Budget Analysis or her designate;
  - i. One (1) representative of the State Board of Education;
  - j. One (1) representative of the Tennessee Advisory Commission on Intergovernmental Relations;
  - k. One (1) representative of the Coalition for Tennessee's Future;
  - l. One (1) representative of the Tennessee School Systems for Equity;
  - m. One (1) representative of the Tennessee Education Association;
  - n. One (1) representative of the Tennessee Organization of School Superintendents;
  - o. One (1) representative of the Tennessee School Boards Association; and
  - p. One (1) representative of the Metropolitan Area School Systems.
4. The Governor or his designate shall serve as Chairperson of the Task Force.
5. The Task Force shall convene for its initial meeting on or before April 10, 2003, at a place and time to be determined by the Chairperson of the Task Force. Thereafter, the Task Force shall meet at such times and places as determined by its Chairperson; provided, however, that the Task Force shall meet no less frequently than one time per month.
6. The Task Force shall be attached to the Department of Education for administrative purposes and shall receive staff support from the Department of Education and the Office of the Governor.
7. Non-legislative members shall receive no compensation for their service on the Task Force but may be reimbursed for those expenses allowed by the provisions of the comprehensive travel regulations as promulgated by the Department of Finance and Administration and approved by the Attorney General and Reporter. Members of the General Assembly shall be reimbursed in the same manner as they are paid for attending legislative meetings pursuant to Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 3-1-106.
8. The Task Force will cease to function following the presentation of its recommendations to the Governor.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have subscribed my signature and caused the Great Seal of the State of Tennessee to be affixed this 27<sup>th</sup> day of February, 2003.



GOVERNOR

ATTEST:

  
SECRETARY OF STATE